# CCRB INVESTIGATIVE RECOMMENDATION

Investigator:	7	Геат:	CCRB Case #:	Force	☑ Discourt.	☐ U.S.
Owen Godshall		Геат # 6	201208548	☐ Abuse	<b>□</b> O.L.	✓ Injury
					_	
Incident Date(s)	I	Location of Incident:		Precinct:	18 Mo. SOL	EO SOL
Tuesday, 07/03/2012 10:45 PM	8	87(2)(b)		45	1/3/2014	1/3/2014
Date/Time CV Reported	(	CV Reported At:	How CV Reported:	Date/Tin	ne Received at CCF	RB
Tue, 07/03/2012 10:35 PM	]1	AB	Phone	Thu, 07/	05/2012 7:45 AM	
Complainant/Victim	Туре	Home Addr	ess			
_						
Witness(es)		Home Addr	ress			
Subject Officer(s)	Shield	TaxID	Command			
Subject Officer(s)						
1. POM Robert Rogers	02421	933283	045 DET			
<ul><li>2. DT3 Jacob Garcia</li><li>3. SGT Adam Mellusi</li></ul>	03521 00000	928348 931825	045 DET 045 PCT			
Witness Officer(s)	Shield No		Cmd Name			
1. LT Paul Trapani	00000	918420	045 PCT			
2. POM Robert Candrea	07049	939752	045 DET			
Officer(s)	Allegation	1		In	vestigator Recon	nmendation
A.POM Robert Rogers		Robert Rogers stopp				
A.POM Robert Rogers B.POM Robert Rogers		Robert Rogers stopp Robert Rogers used p		§ 87(2)		
_	Force: PO		physical force against			
B.POM Robert Rogers	Force: PO Force: Det Discourtes	Robert Rogers used p	physical force against	§ 87(2) (b)		
B.POM Robert Rogers C.DT3 Jacob Garcia	Force: PO Force: Det	Robert Rogers used p	physical force against	§ 87(2) (b)		

# **Case Summary**

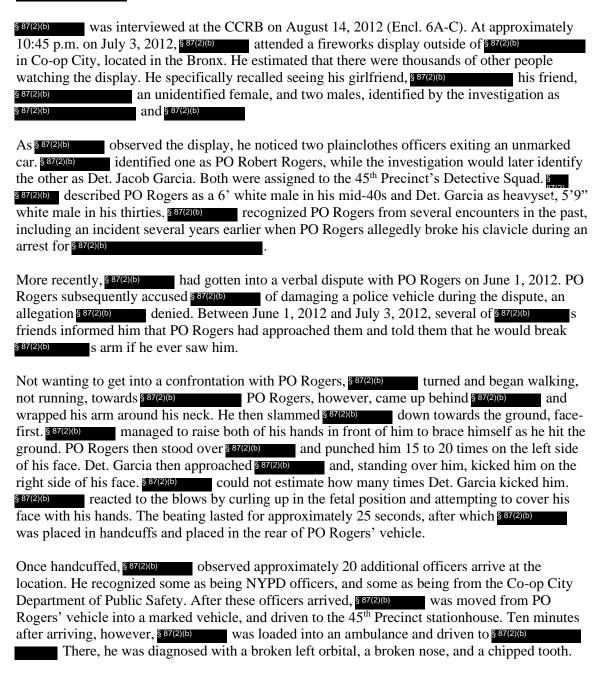
On July 3, 2012, \$87(2)(b) and					
filed complaints with IAB via telephone on behalf of \$87(2)(b) and The complaint was referred to the CCRB via IAB log #12-35785. On July 5, 2012, filed a complaint with the CCRB via the Call Processing System on behalf of \$87(2)(b)					
At approximately 10:45 p.m. on July 3, 2012, PO Robert Rogers and Det. Jacob Garcia traveled to \$87(2)(0) who was suspected of intentionally damaging a police vehicle on June 1, 2012. The following allegations resulted:					
• Allegation A: Abuse of Authority: PO Robert Rogers stopped § 87(2)(b) § 87(2)(g)					
• Allegation B: Force: PO Robert Rogers used physical force against \$87(2)(5) \$87(2)(9)					
• Allegation C: Force: Det. Jacob Garcia use physical force against \$87(2)(b)					
Allegation D: Discourtesy – Sgt. Adam Mellusi spoke discourteously to \$87(2)(5)  8 87(2)(9)					
● § 87(4-b), § 87(2)(g)					
The case was initially assigned to Investigator Peter Hoy on July 5, 2012. On October 17, 2012, the case was reassigned to Investigator Jonathan Phillips, after Investigator Hoy's promotion. On October 2, 2013, the case was reassigned to Investigator Owen Godshall, the undersigned, after Investigator Phillips left the agency.					
Results of Investigation					
<u>Civilian Statements</u>					
Complainant: \$87(2)(0)  • \$87(2)(0)  a black female, is the mother of \$87(2)(0)  She did not witness the incident, so her testimony could not be used to determine the disposition of the allegations.					
<u>Victim</u> : § 87(2)(b)					

Page 2 CCRB Case # 201208548 • \$87(2)(0) old at the time of the incident, is a 5'10", 160-pound black male with black hair and brown eyes. He was employed as a porter by Hyundai.

#### **Arrest Photograph**

In his arrest photograph, §87(2)(b) s left eye is significantly swollen. There is no discernable injury to his right eye (Encl. 6D).

#### **CCRB Testimony**



Approximately 12 hours later, he was discharged from the hospital, and returned to the stationhouse, where he was interviewed by IAB. was aware that other people at the location, including a male identified by the investigation as §87(2)(b) were arrested after him. He did not, however, provide accounts of any of these arrests. Complainant/Witness: § 87(2)(b) § 87(2)(b) is a male. **CCRB Testimony** On March 6, 2013, \$87(2)(b) provided a telephone statement (Encl. 9A). At approximately 10:45 p.m. on July 3, 2012, in front of § 87(2)(b) in Co-op City, in the Bronx, two police officers, identified by the investigation as PO Robert Rogers and Det. Jacob Garcia of the 45th Precinct Detective Squad, threw \$87(2)(b) friend, \$87(2)(b) to the ground. \$87(2)(b) covered his face with his hands once he was on the ground. He did not strike the officers, or make any sort of physical contact with them. Neither officer punched \$87(2)(b) once he was on the ground, but one of them, identified by the investigation as PO Rogers, struck [8] 87(2)(5) face with a radio, before placing him in handcuffs. Several bystanders were present at the time, including §87(2)(b)

After §87(2)(b) officers took two of these individuals' phones and broke them. §87(2)(b) did not identify these individuals, or specify whether they had been recording the incident with their phones. At some point during the incident, a \$87(2)(b) -old male, identified by the investigation as \$87(2)(b) was arrested as well. The officers who arrested \$37(2)(5) punched him. \$37(2)(5) not describe this force in any detail, and did not state whether these were the same officers who had arrested § 87(2)(b) Attempts to Schedule §87(2)(b) for a Sworn Statement A first please-call letter was mailed to \$87(2)(b) on March 4, 2013. A call was made to \$100. on March 6, 2013. A telephone statement was taken, and an interview was scheduled for March 11, 2013. § 87(2)(b) failed to appear for this interview, and did not call ahead to cancel or reschedule. A missed appointment letter was mailed to \$87(2)(5) on March 12, 2013. Neither of the letters sent to him were returned to the CCRB by the US Postal Service. Between March 13, 2013 and June 4, 2013, three calls were made to \$87(2)(5) to reschedule his interview. On the final call, he scheduled an interview for June 12, 2013. Once again, however, he failed to appear for this interview without calling ahead to cancel or reschedule. A December 5, 2013 search of the Department of Correction's online inmate database confirmed that is not currently incarcerated (Encl. 10A).

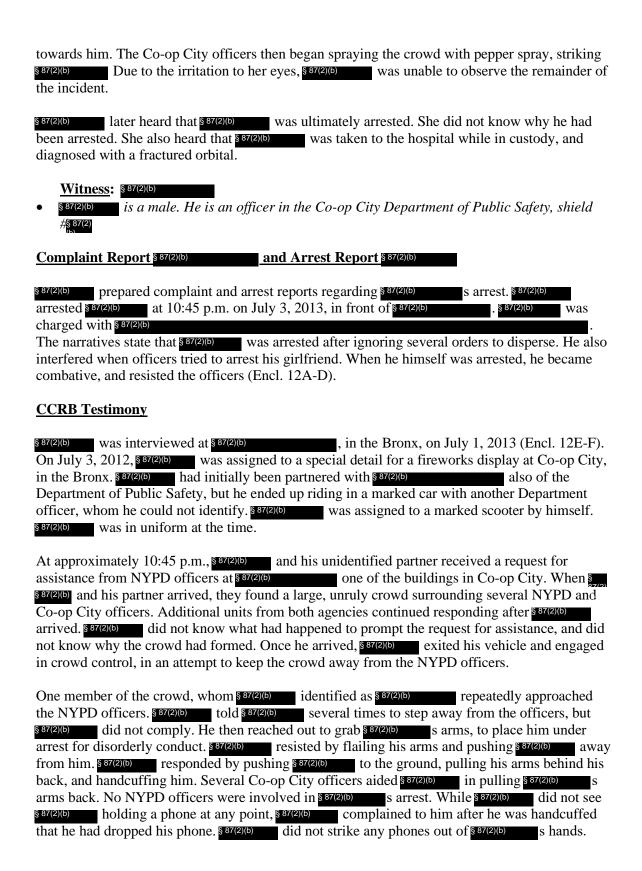
Complainant/Witness: § 87(2)(b)

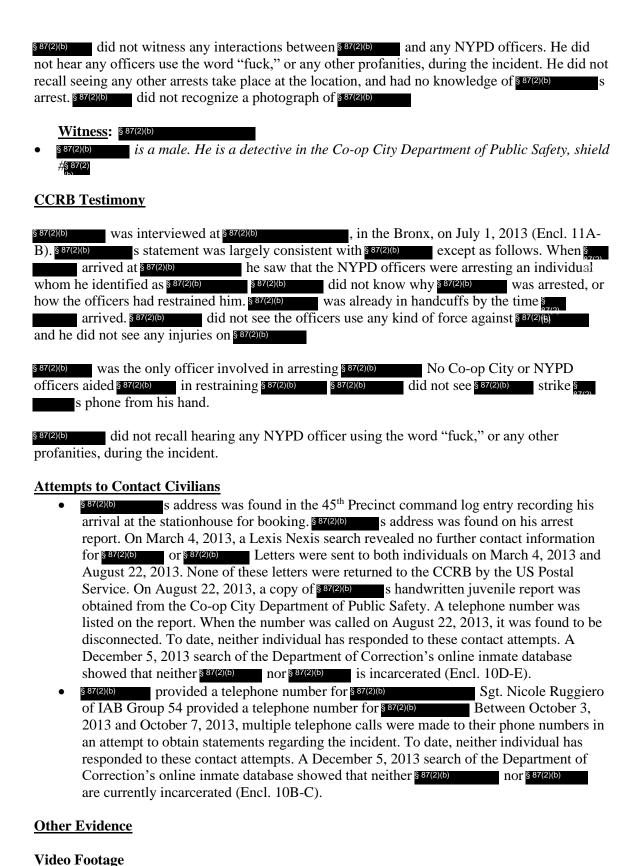
• § 87(2)(b) is a black female.

#### **CCRB Testimony**

### Page 4 CCRB Case # 201208548

On October 7, 2013, \$87(2)(b) provided a telephone statement (Encl. 7A). At approximately 10:45 p.m. on July 3, 2012, \$87(2)(b) was walking with a group of friends, including \$87(2)(b) and her boyfriend, \$87(2)(b) An unmarked car drove up to the group, and two officers, identified by the investigation as PO Robert Rogers and Det. Jacob Garcia, exited. \$7(2)(b) had been involved in a dispute of some kind with PO Rogers on an earlier date. Upon seeing PO Rogers, \$87(2)(b) began backing away from him. Once he exited the vehicle, PO Rogers ran straight towards \$87(2)(b) Initially, she stated that he did not say anything to \$87(2)(b) as he approached. Later, however, she stated that he may have told him not to run.
When PO Rogers reached \$87(2)(b) he tackled \$87(2)(b) to the ground. \$87(2)(b) landed on his right side, with PO Rogers landing on top of him. PO Rogers then punched approximately eight times on the left side of his face. As PO Rogers struck \$87(2)(b) Det. Garcia stood beside his partner, warning \$87(2)(b) and her friends to stay back. At this time, a crowd of about 20 bystanders gathered around \$87(2)(b) As the crowd approached, PO Rogers took out an object that \$87(2)(b) believed to be a radio. PO Rogers struck \$87(2)(b) twice with the object, first on his face, and then once on his chest. \$87(2)(b) did not resist PO Rogers at any point, or make any movements as he was hit.
PO Rogers then placed sa7(2)(b) in handcuffs and pulled him to his feet. sa7(2)(b) s face was covered in blood as he rose. By this time, a large number of officers, from both the NYPD and the Co-op City Department of Public Safety, responded to the location. The officers placed into a nearby police vehicle, and drove him away.
would later learn that \$87(2)(b) suffered a broken nose and a fractured orbital as a result of PO Rogers' force. He also had to have at least two of his teeth removed.
Witness: §87(2)(b)  • §87(2)(b) is a female.
CCRB Testimony
On Oatshar 2, 2012 Secretary and detalarland at start of the Control of the Contr
On October 3, 2013, \$87(2)(6) provided a telephone statement (Encl. 8A). At approximately 10:45 p.m. on July 3, 2012, \$87(2)(6) exited her apartment building, located at \$87(2)(6) in Co-op City, in the Bronx. She noticed a large group of people surrounding two people who appeared to be fighting. When she approached, she saw that the two individuals were her friend, \$87(2)(6) and a plainclothes officer, identified by the investigation as PO Robert Rogers. No other officers were present at that time.
10:45 p.m. on July 3, 2012, \$37(2)(b) exited her apartment building, located at \$37(2)(b) in Co-op City, in the Bronx. She noticed a large group of people surrounding two people who appeared to be fighting. When she approached, she saw that the two individuals were her friend, \$37(2)(b) and a plainclothes officer, identified by the investigation as PO Robert





Page 7
CCRB Case # 201208548

provided a copy of a video taken by \$57(2)(b) on his cell phone. The video takes place in a large parking lot. A large number of civilians and uniformed officers can be seen moving about. Several vehicles are parked in the lot, including marked police vehicles, and unmarked cars with police lights on their dashboards. At 1:20, \$87(2)(b) can be heard stating, "You already tackled the man, you already tackled him on the floor, that didn't call for punching in the face like that."

continues walking around the parking lot for the next five minutes. As \$87(2)(b) was moving the camera rapidly during this period, the video becomes blurry and hard to follow. approaches a group of uniform officers several times, angrily accusing them of "beating a boy in the face." At several points during this period, a male voice can be heard ordering to step back. \$87(2)(b) however, disregards these orders. At 4:50, a male voice says, "You wanna go to the precinct? Put your hands behind your back." Shouting can then be heard, and \$87(2)(b) are scamera falls to the ground. The camera remained recording on the ground for approximately 47 minutes after it was dropped. For the first five minutes after the camera falls, incoherent shouting can be heard in the background. The remainder of the footage is silent (Encl. 17A).

#### **NYPD Statement(s):**

#### **Subject Officer: PO ROBERT ROGERS**

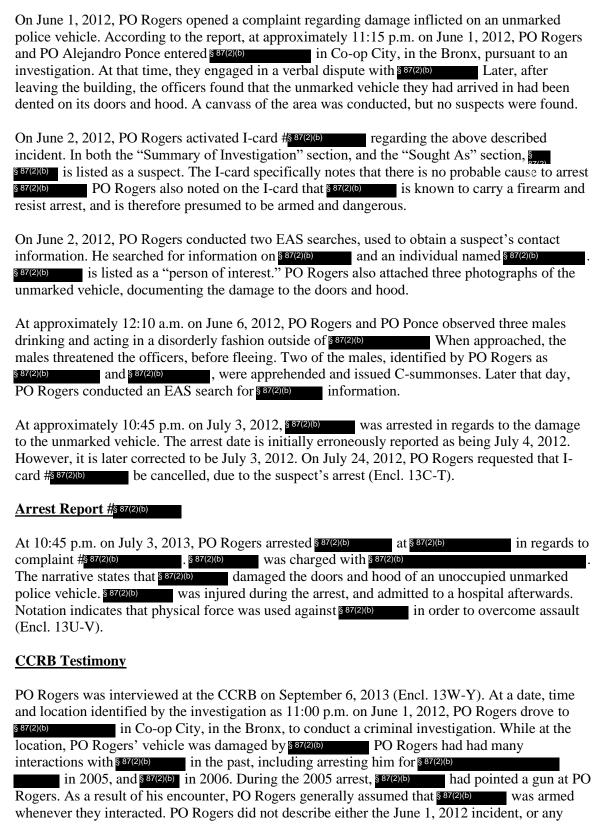
- PO Rogers, serence old at the time of the incident, is a 6'4", 250-pound white male with brown hair and blue eyes.
- PO Rogers worked from 4:00 p.m. on July 3, 2012 until 1:00 a.m. on July 4, 2012. He was assigned to investigative duty as part of the 45<sup>th</sup> Precinct Detective Squad. He worked with Det. Jacob Garcia. PO Rogers was in plainclothes, and assigned to an unmarked blue Ford Taurus, RMP #1500.

#### Command Discipline Report #2013-260-0077

PO Rogers did bring a copy of his memo book covering the events of July 3, 2012 to his CCRB interview. He was instructed to fax a copy of the memo book to the CCRB upon returning to his command. On November 11, 2013, PO Rogers provided a copy of Command Discipline Report #2013-260-0077 in lieu of his memo book. The report stated that PO Rogers had lost his memo book for June 5, 2012 and June 6, 2012. While it was not explicitly stated, the proximity between the dates listed on the report and the incident date indicates that PO Rogers' memo book entries from July 3, 2012 would have been included in the lost memo book. The investigation was thus unable to obtain a copy of PO Rogers' memo book (Encl. 13A-B).

#### **Complaint Follow-Up Informational Report**

Page 8 CCRB Case # 201208548



Rogers did not explain why he suspected \$87(2)(b) of having damaged the car. At an unspecified time during the evening on July 3, 2012, PO Rogers received a call from an unidentified civilian, stating that he or she had seen §87(2)(b) outside of §87(2)(b) Rogers and his partner, Det. Garcia, responded to the location to find \$37(2)(b) PO Rogers explained that his intent at the time was to bring \$87(2)(6) back to the stationhouse, to question him about the June 1, 2012 incident. At approximately 10:35 p.m., PO Rogers and Det. Garcia arrived at §87(2)(b) exiting the car, PO Rogers noticed (\$372) exiting the building's rear door, approximately 20 feet away. PO Rogers exited the vehicle and approached § 37(2)(b) When PO Rogers was about five or six feet away, [807(2)(6)] turned to him and stated, "Rogers, I want to talk to you about the car." § 87(2)(b) then turned and began running back towards § 87(2)(b) Rogers chased after him. At that point, he had not said anything to §87(2)(b) PO Rogers was able to catch up to \$87(2)(6) within moments. As he approached, however, \$ \$87(2)(b) stopped, turned around, and swung his fist towards PO Rogers' head. PO Rogers was able to move his head out of the way, causing the blow to strike him on his left shoulder instead. With the situation now having escalated to an arrest, PO Rogers grabbed §87(2)(b) around his torso and waist, and pushed him to the ground in order to handcuff him. When PO Rogers pushed, however, he lost his balance as well, and fell to the ground on top of §87(2)(b) PO Rogers did not recall how \$87(2)(b) struck the ground when he fell, but did recall that \$87(2)(b) landed on top of his right hand, causing PO Rogers pain. Once both PO Rogers and § 87(2)(b) were on the ground, §87(2)(b) rolled onto his back and began punching at PO Rogers' head. PO Rogers did not recall how many times \$87(2)(6) punched at him. PO Rogers held both of his hands up in front of his face to defend himself. As punched, PO Rogers attempted to grab at his hands to gain control of them. He also commanded § 87(2)(b) to stop resisting, and to yield control of his hands. PO Rogers punched several times during the incident, striking his face with both hands. He did not recall how many times he punched \$37(2)(b) This force was used to subdue and restrain for arrest. PO Rogers did not use any other force besides punching \$87(2)(b) grabbing at § 87(2)(b) s arms. PO Rogers did not recall what, if any, actions Det. Garcia took during the struggle. After several minutes, § 37(2)(b) was rolled onto his stomach, and his arms were pulled behind his back. PO Rogers did not recall how he was able to achieve this. Once was turned over, Det. Garcia placed him in handcuffs. was restrained, a number of backup officers arrived at the location. These officers were from both the NYPD and the Co-op City Department of Public Safety. PO Rogers stated that they responded to multiple calls for backup he himself had put over the radio. He did not recall, however, when he made these calls. §87(2)(b) was loaded into the rear of an NYPD vehicle, and transported to the 45<sup>th</sup> Precinct stationhouse. PO Rogers did not accompany § 87(2)(b) and had no further interaction with him. In the wake of the arrest, a large crowd gathered around the location. PO Rogers was later informed that the backup officers arrested several of the bystanders. He himself did not witness any of these arrests, though he did see several individuals in handcuffs, PO Rogers did not recognize an arrest photograph of §87(2)(b) one of the individuals who was arrested.

subsequent investigation he may have conducted into the incident, in any significant detail. PO

Page 10 CCRB Case # 201208548 PO Rogers did not recall seeing any injuries to \$87(2)(b) He was later informed that \$87(2)(b) was taken to \$87(2)(b) but did not know why he was taken, or what treatment he received. Later that night, PO Rogers went to an unspecified hospital to have his right hand examined. PO Rogers had suffered a fracture to his right hand, forcing him to take several days off after the incident.

#### Witness Officer: DET. JACOB GARCIA

- Det. Garcia, [87(2)(5)] old at the time of the incident, is a 5'10", 265-pound Hispanic male with brown hair and green eyes.
- Det. Garcia worked from 3:45 p.m. on July 3, 2012 until 1:00 a.m. on July 4, 2012. He was assigned to investigative duty as part of the 45<sup>th</sup> Precinct Detective Squad. He worked with PO Robert Rogers. Det. Garcia was in plainclothes, and assigned to an unmarked blue Ford Taurus, RMP #1500.

#### Memo Book

At 10:00 p.m. on July 3, 2012, Det. Garcia arrived at \$87(2)(b) At 10:45 p.m., he arrested at the location. At 11:00 p.m., he returned to the 45<sup>th</sup> Precinct stationhouse to process the arrest. At 11:55 p.m., Det. Garcia responded to \$87(2)(b) in regards to an officer injured during the arrest (Encl. 14A-D).

#### Complaint Report #\$ 87(2)(b) and Arrest Report #\$ 87(2)(b)

Det. Garcia prepared complaint and arrest reports regarding \$87(2)(b) s arrest. Both state that at 10:45 p.m. on July 3, 2012, while attempting to arrest \$87(2)(b) in regards to open complaint \$87(2)(b) PO Robert Rogers sustained a broken right hand and lacerations to his left hand. Notation indicates that force was used against \$87(2)(b) in order to overcome his assault. He was charged with \$87(2)(b) (Encl. 14E-H).

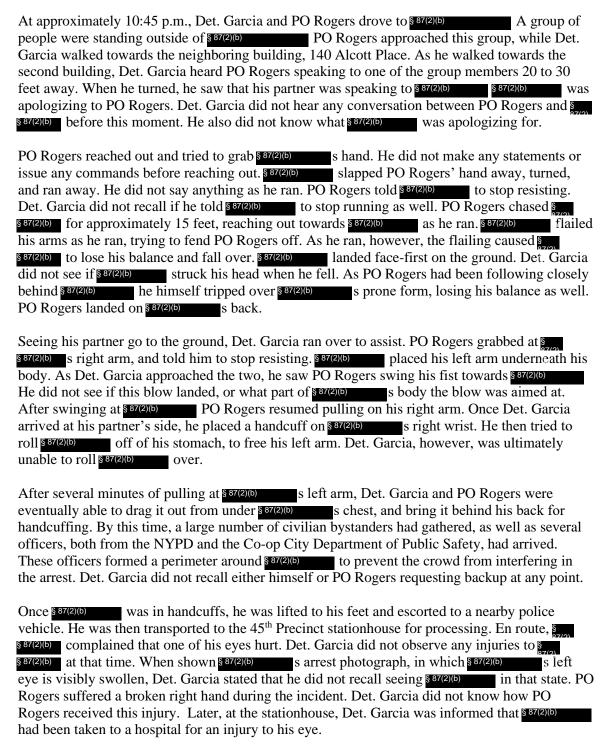
#### **Criminal Court Complaint**

Det. Garcia prepared a criminal court complaint regarding \$87(2)(b) s arrest on July 3, 2012. It states that based upon statements from both witnesses and \$87(2)(b) himself, on June 1, 2012, \$87(2)(b) damaged an unmarked police car. It further states that when PO Rogers attempted to arrest \$87(2)(b) at approximately 10:45 p.m. on July 3, 2012, \$87(2)(b) struck him in the face and body several times with his elbows. As a result, PO Rogers suffered a fracture to his right hand (Encl. 14I-J).

#### **CCRB Testimony**

On August 22, 2013, Det. Garcia was interviewed at the CCRB (Encl. 14K-M). On the night of July 3, 2012, Det. Garcia was assigned to assist PO Rogers search for \$87(2)(b) as suspect in an open case. PO Rogers had received a call informing him that \$87(2)(b) was present at \$37(2)(b) was present at \$37(2)(b) was unfamiliar with the details of \$87(2)(b) as case. He was, however, familiar with \$37(2)(b) having arrested him once before for \$87(2)(b)

Page 11 CCRB Case # 201208548



#### Subject Officer: SGT. ADAM MELLUSI

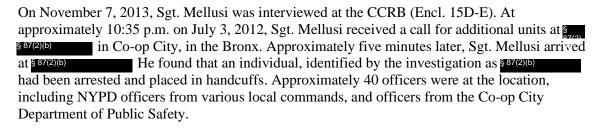
• Sgt. Mellusi, 887(2)(b) old at the time of the incident, is a 6'1", 220-pound white male with brown hair and brown eyes.

Page 12 CCRB Case # 201208548 • On July 3, 2012, Sgt. Mellusi worked from 2:50 p.m. until 11:35 p.m. He was assigned as a patrol supervisor for the 45<sup>th</sup> Precinct. PO Robert Candrea was his operator. He was in uniform, and assigned to marked RMP #3518.

#### Memo Book

Sgt. Mellusi did not have any memo book entries regarding the incident (Encl. 15A-C).

#### **CCRB Testimony**



While Sgt. Mellusi had never interacted with \$87(2)(6) he was aware that officers from the 45<sup>th</sup> Precinct had arrested \$87(2)(6) numerous times for drug- and weapon-related offenses. Sgt. Mellusi was informed that \$87(2)(6) had been arrested in regards to an ongoing investigation that PO Robert Rogers of the 45<sup>th</sup> Precinct Detective Squad had been conducting. He did not know any of the details of PO Rogers' investigation, save that it might have been involved robbery or a weapons-related offense. Sgt. Mellusi did not know which officers had actually placed \$87(2)(6) under arrest, and did not recall what officers were interacting with after the arrest. He did not see any force used against \$87(2)(6) at any point.

Roughly 100 bystanders had gathered around the officers. While most of the bystanders were only passively observing the arrest, many of them were shouting angrily at the officers. Some of these individuals were recording the incident on their cell phones, and several tried to approach the officers directly. Between six and eight of these individuals were arrested at the location for disorderly conduct. Sgt. Mellusi himself did not make any of these arrests, or participate directly in them. He believed that most of these individuals were taken to the 45<sup>th</sup> Precinct stationhouse, where they were eventually released with summonses.

Sgt. Mellusi initially stated that he did not recall speaking with any of these individuals, before or after they were arrested. While he did not recall using any profanity, he stated that he might have used the word "fuck" in the context of a command while speaking with some of the disorderly individuals, making statements such as, "Get the fuck back." Later, however, Sgt. Mellusi was shown video footage taken by \$37(2)(5) one of the individuals arrested for \$37(2)(5) one of the individuals arrested for \$37(2)(5) one of the officers heard in the footage telling \$37(2)(5) one of the officers heard in the footage telling \$37(2)(5) one of the video in which he can be heard telling \$37(2)(5) one of the video in which he can be heard telling \$37(2)(6) one of the video in which he can be heard telling \$37(2)(6) one of the video in which he can be heard telling \$37(2)(6) one of the video in which he can be heard telling \$37(2)(6) one of the video in which he can be heard telling \$37(2)(6) one of the video in which he can be heard telling \$37(2)(6) one of the individuals arrested for \$37(2)(6) one of the individuals

#### Medical Records

Page 13 CCRB Case # 201208548

## **Medical Treatment of Prisoner Report**

A Medical Treatment of Prisoner Report was prepared for \$87(2)(b) by an officer named "Garcia" from the 45 <sup>th</sup> Precinct. The narrative states that \$87(2)(b) displayed swelling around his left eye. The report does not specify what hospital \$87(2)(b) was transported to (Encl. 16A).
§ 87(2)(b) Records
s medical records could not be obtained by the investigation. signed medical release forms during his interview on August 14, 2012. Subpoenas were mailed to some on September 6, 2012. On March 4, 2013,
As \$\frac{\$87(2)(b)}{\$87(2)(b)}\$ s signed medical release forms had been sent out with the earlier subpoenas, efforts were made to obtain additional signed copies from \$\frac{\$87(2)(b)}{\$87(2)(b)}\$. This was complicated by the fact that \$\frac{\$87(2)(b)}{\$87(2)(b)}\$ was arrested in \$\frac{\$87(2)(b)}{\$87(2)(b)}\$, awaiting trial for \$\frac{\$87(2)(b)}{\$87(2)(b)}\$ (Encl. 6F). On October 31, 2013, a call was made to the Inmate Advocate at the jail. The Advocate stated that the form could be faxed to the jail, and that the form would be faxed back after \$\frac{\$87(2)(b)}{\$87(2)(b)}\$ reviewed and signed it. A copy of the medical release form was faxed to the jail later that day, with the return fax number attached. To date, the medical release form has not been returned from the Bergen County Jail. Follow-up calls were made to the Inmate Advocate's office on November 7, 2013 and November 14, 2013. Voicemails were left on each call.
Line-of-Duty Control Log
While the Medical Division was unable to provide a copy of Line-of-Duty Injury Report they were able to provide a copy of the Line-of-Duty Control Log. The log indicates that PO Rogers was treated at \$87(2)(6) on July 4, 2012 for a fractured right hand. The narrative states that PO Rogers received this injury, as well as an unspecified injury to his left hand, while trying to arrest a fleeing perpetrator at \$87(2)(6) in Co-op City, in the Bronx (Encl. 16F-G).
NYPD Documents
Complaint #§ 87(2)(b)
PO Jeffrey Gaston of the 45 <sup>th</sup> Precinct prepared a complaint report regarding the damage to PO Rogers' vehicle. At approximately 11:00 p.m. on June 1, 2012, an unknown individual damaged

45th Precinct Command Log

Page 14 CCRB Case # 201208548

an unoccupied unmarked police vehicle by kicking the driver side door, passenger side door, and the hood. The case was closed on July 3, 2012, when \$87(2)(b) was arrested (Encl. 18C-D).

p.m "no issu and	were arrested on July 3, 2012, and taken to the 45 <sup>th</sup> Precinct ionhouse for processing. \$\frac{87(2)(b)}{2812, 87(2)(b)}\$ arrived at 10:50 p.m., and \$\frac{87(2)(b)}{87(2)(b)}\$ arrived at 10:55  was arrested for \$\frac{87(2)(a)}{2812, 87(2)(b)}\$. His physical condition was listed as rmal." \$\frac{87(2)(b)}{87(2)(b)}\$ was released into his mother's custody at 12:25 a.m. on July 4, 2012, and led a juvenile report. No charges are listed for \$\frac{87(2)(b)}{87(2)(b)}\$ He had several cuts on his face, was taken to \$\frac{87(2)(b)}{87(2)(b)}\$ at 12:45 a.m. on July 4, 2012. \$\frac{87(2)(b)}{87(2)(b)}\$ was returned he stationhouse at 8:45 a.m., and taken to Central Booking at 12:40 p.m. (Encl. 18H-J).
	nmons/Arrest for Incident and Disposition
•	[§ 87(2)(b)] [§§ 86(1)(3)&(4)] [§ 87(2)(c)]
•	[§ 87(2)(b)] [§§ 86(1)(3)&(4)] [§ 87(2)(c)]
Star •	A request for any Notices of Claim filed by \$37(2)(5) and \$37(2)(5) was sent to the Comptroller's office on August 7, 2013. No response was made to this request. A second request was submitted on December 5, 2013. The results will be added to the case file upon receipt (Encl. 22U).
Civ	ilians Conviction History
•	[§ 87(2)(b)] [§§ 86(1)(3)&(4)] [§ 87(2)(c)]
_	
Civ	ilians CCRB History
•	This is the first CCRB complaint filed by \$87(2)(b) or \$87(2)(b) (Encl. 3A-F).
•	has filed the following CCRB complaints (Encl. 3G):

Page 15 CCRB Case # 201208548

#### **Subject Officers CCRB History**

- PO Robert Rogers has been a member of the service for 10 years and there are no substantiated CCRB allegations against him (Encl. 2A-B).
- Det. Jacob Garcia has been a member of the service for 12 years and there are no substantiated CCRB allegations against him (Encl. 2C).
- Sgt. Adam Mellusi has been a member of the service for 11 years and there are no substantiated CCRB allegations against him (Encl. 2D).

#### Conclusion

	I	d	<u>lentificatio</u>	<u>n of</u>	Sub	ject	<u>Officers</u>
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•	<u>strication of Subject Officers</u> <u>ser(2)(b)</u> described the officer who approached him, tackled him, and punched him as
	a 6' white male in his forties. He recognized the officer from previous encounters, giving
	his name as "Rogers." PO Rogers is a 6'4" white male in his 30s. PO Rogers identified
	himself as the officer who pursued \$87(2)(b) and punched him. \$87(2)(9)
•	described the officer who kicked him in the face as a heavyset 5'9" white
	male in his thirties. Det. Garcia is a 5'10", 250-pound Hispanic male in his thirties. Det.
	Garcia was partnered with PO Rogers, and stated that he assisted PO Rogers in arresting
	§ 87(2)(b) § 87(2)(g)
•	In § 87(2)(b) s video, a uniformed white male officer with sergeant's chevrons is seen
	using profanity. Sgt. Mellusi confirmed that he is the officer shown in the video.
	§ 87(2)(g)
<u>Allega</u>	ations Not Pleaded
•	alleged that officers at the location broke cell phones belonging to two of the
	bystanders. He also alleged that § 87(2)(b) s arresting officer punched him. All accounts

ne S agree that a large number of officers from both the NYPD and the Co-op City Department of Public Safety were present at the location, and made arrests. \$87(2)(b) did not describe the officers who broke the phones or struck \$87(2)(b) in any detail. was scheduled twice to be interviewed regarding the incident, but he did not appear for either appointment. Absent further testimony or documentation, it is impossible to determine which organization these officers belonged to. § 87(2)(9)

and §87(2)(b) all alleged that PO Rogers struck §87(2)(b) with a radio. All three made these statements long after the incident, with \$87(2)(6) making the allegations over a year later. § 87(2)(b) the victim of this allegation, only stated that PO Rogers punched him. § 87(2)(9)

#### **Investigative Findings and Recommendations**

# Allegation A: Abuse of Authority: PO Robert Rogers stopped §87(2)(b)

§ 87(2)(b)		n PO Rogers approached him outside of § 87(2)(b)	he began
walking	g away from the office	er. PO Rogers came up behind him and threw hin	n to the ground.
§ 87(2)(b)	stated that § 87(2)(b)	backed away from PO Rogers when he was ap	proached. While
§ 87(2)(b)	and § 87(2)(b)	both stated that PO Rogers came up to §87(2)(b)	and pushed him

Page 16 CCRB Case # 201208548

to the ground, neither stated that \$87(2)(b) was trying to walk or run away. PO Rogers and Det. Garcia both stated that \$87(2)(b) tried to run from PO Rogers, and that PO Rogers gave chase. In PO Rogers' account, he himself did not say anything to \$87(2)(b) before \$87(2)(b) fled. Before running, \$87(2)(b) told him, "Rogers, I want to talk to you about the car." Det. Garcia stated that PO Rogers spoke briefly to \$87(2)(b) before the pursuit. He also heard \$87(2)(b) apologizing to PO Rogers for something, but he was unable to recall what the apology was in regards to.
In order to stop an individual, an officer must have reasonable suspicion that such person has committed a crime. <u>People v. DeBour</u> , 40 N.Y.2d 210 (1976) (Encl. 1A-K). Flight upon an officer's approach, when combined with an already-existing founded suspicion, yields reasonable suspicion. <u>People v. Johnson</u> , 207 A.D.2d 806 (Sup. Ct. 2 <sup>nd</sup> Dept., 1994) (Encl. 1L-M).
Neither \$87(2)(b) nor \$87(2)(b) stated that \$87(2)(b) fled from the officers. PO Rogers and Det. Garcia stated that \$87(2)(b) ran after PO Rogers approached him. While \$87(2)(b) and did not state that he ran, they did state that after he noticed PO Rogers, \$87(2)(b) attempted to move away. \$87(2)(9)
§ 87(2)(g)
The most complete account of the June 1, 2012 was provided in DO Pagare? Compleint Follow
The most complete account of the June 1, 2012 was provided in PO Rogers' Complaint Follow-Up Information Report. It states that \$\frac{87(2)(0)}{2}\$ got into a verbal dispute with PO Rogers outside of \$\frac{87(2)(0)}{2}\$ PO Rogers then entered the building to conduct an unrelated investigation. Upon exiting, he found that the vehicle had been damaged. The report does not state whether anybody other than \$\frac{87(2)(0)}{2}\$ was present, or if \$\frac{87(2)(0)}{2}\$ was ever seen near the officers' car. The report also indicates that PO Rogers put out an I-card for \$\frac{87(2)(0)}{2}\$ The I-card, however, specifies that \$\frac{87(2)(0)}{2}\$ is a suspect only, and that there is no probable cause to arrest \$\frac{87(2)(0)}{2}\$ Subsequent investigative steps outlined in the report do not make any direct mention of \$\frac{87(2)(0)}{2}\$ Instead, they make reference to two other individuals, \$\frac{87(2)(0)}{2}\$ and \$\frac{87(2)(0)}{2}\$ who were not mentioned in the initial account of the June 1, 2012 incident. The level of detail presented in the report does not provide a complete account, \$\frac{87(2)(0)}{2}\$

Page 17 CCRB Case # 201208548

The criminal court complaint, prepared by Det. Garcia, indicates that the officers determined damaged the police vehicle based on investigation, witness statements, and statements from \$87(2)(0) himself. It is unclear in the complaint, however, what specific information they had, or whether they possessed this information at the time of the stop.
PO Gaston's complaint report, prepared regarding the June 1, 2012 incident, explicitly stated in the narrative that the suspect was unidentified at the time. § 37(2)(9)
§ 87(2)(g)
Allegation B: Force: PO Robert Rogers used physical force against [857(2)(5)]
It is undisputed that physical force was used against \$87(2)(b) Accounts vary, however, on what force was used, and under what circumstances.
alleged that after PO Rogers pursued him, he grabbed \$87(2)(b) by the neck and threw him to the ground. PO Rogers then punched \$87(2)(b) 15 to 20 times in the face. \$87(2)(b) reacted to this force by holding his arms up to guard his face. \$87(2)(b) corroborated most of \$87(2)(b) s statement, save that she stated that he was punched approximately eight times. \$87(2)(b) also stated that PO Rogers threw \$87(2)(b) to the ground, but did not state that PO Rogers punched him. \$87(2)(b) stated that PO Rogers punched \$87(2)(b) once while he was still standing, causing him to fall to the ground. She did not allege that PO Rogers punched \$87(2)(b) while he was on the ground. Neither \$87(2)(b) nor \$87(2)(b) was present when \$87(2)(b) was first approached by PO Rogers.
Both PO Rogers and Det. Garcia stated that after PO Rogers pursued \$87(2)(b) swung his fist at PO Rogers. Both PO Rogers and \$87(2)(b) then lost their balance and fell to the ground. PO Rogers stated that \$87(2)(b) punched several times at his face. In response, he punched \$87(2)(b) an unknown number of times in the face. Det. Garcia, however, stated that \$87(2)(b) only resisted PO Rogers by burying his left arm underneath his body, preventing handcuffing. He stated that he saw PO Rogers swing his fist once at \$87(2)(b) but did not recall where he was aiming, or if the blow made contact.
s medical records could not be obtained. However, civilian and officer accounts both stated that he was treated for a fractured orbital at \$87(2)(b) His arrest photograph also showed severe swelling to his left eye. \$87(2)(b) also stated that his nose was broken, and that he chipped a tooth. PO Roger's Line-of-Duty Control Log confirmed that he was treated for a broken right hand at \$87(2)(b)

Page 18 CCRB Case # 201208548

NYPD Patrol Guide Procedure 203-11 states that officers are permitted to use minimal force to

overcome a suspect's resistance in order to effect an arrest (Encl. 1N-O).

§ 87(2)(g)
§ 87(2)(g)
§ 87(2)(g)
§ 87(2)(g)
Allegation C: Force: Det. Jacob Garcia use physical force against \$87(2)(6)
alleged that Det. Garcia kicked him an unknown number of times on the right side of his face. None of the other accounts, however, mentioned this. \$\frac{87(2)(b)}{2}\$ stated that Det. Garcia assisted PO Rogers in pushing \$\frac{87(2)(b)}{2}\$ to the ground, but this statement is also uncorroborated. Neither \$\frac{87(2)(b)}{2}\$ made any allegations against Det. Garcia. Det. Garcia stated that he assisted PO Rogers in pulling \$\frac{87(2)(b)}{2}\$ s arms behind his back. He denied punching or kicking \$\frac{87(2)(b)}{2}\$ PO Rogers only recalled that Det. Garcia placed \$\frac{87(2)(b)}{2}\$ in handcuffs after the struggle on the ground. Finally, there is no discernable injury to the right side of \$\frac{87(2)(b)}{2}\$ s face in his arrest photo.
§ 87(2)(g)

# Allegation D: Discourtesy – Sgt. Adam Mellusi spoke rudely to §87(2)(b) In the video footage, taken by \$87(2)(b) but provided to the CCRB by \$87(2)(b) Sgt. Mellusi can be heard telling \$87(2)(b) "Shut the fuck up." Sgt. Mellusi was not seen making any previous statements to \$87(2)(b) and did not face \$87(2)(b) when he made the statement. When shown the footage, Sgt. Mellusi stated that he was unable to hear any profanity. He maintained this even after the footage was slowed down, and the volume was raised. He did not recall using any profanity during the incident. According to NYPD Patrol Guide Procedure 203-09, officers are to be courteous and respectful when dealing with the public (Encl. 1P). Limited use of profanity, when used to maintain order in a stressful street encounter, does not constitute misconduct. NYPD v. \$87(2)(b) OATH Index 78667/03 (Encl. 1Q-T). Team: Investigator: Signature Print Date Supervisor: Title/Signature Print Date Reviewer: Title/Signature Print Date

Page 20 CCRB Case # 201208548

Reviewer: \_\_

Title/Signature Print Date